

# MAD RIVER UNION

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## THE SEVEN-MONTH SADNESS



**ROARING SILENCE** Protesters silently filled City Hall's lobby at last week's City Council meeting exactly seven months after David Josiah Lawson was killed at a party. KLH | UNION

## Lawson's loss marked in march, silent protest

Kevin L. Hoover  
MAD RIVER UNION

ARCATA – Exactly seven months after the violent killing of Humboldt State student David Josiah Lawson, a phalanx of silent marchers walked from the university to City Hall, where the City Council was meeting. The marchers paused outside the City Manager's Conference Room, where the council had been meeting in closed session, displaying to those inside a banner full of pictures of the young man that also read "LONG LIVE DJ" and "LONG LIVE JOSIAH."



David Josiah Lawson

Assembling inside the Council Chamber, some of the marchers spoke during Early Oral Communication. Charmaine Lawson, mother of the slain Rancho Verde High School student, played a heart-wrenching audio recording of her son's voice in which he spoke confidently of attending Humboldt State. Lawson planned to major in criminal justice and become an attorney. (Hear the recording at [madriverrunion.com](http://madriverrunion.com).)

"You're not a man because of how strong you are," the then-18-year-old said. "Being a man in the 21st century is about the character of your heart... To be a man, you have to stand up for what you believe in. You have to show love and compassion for others."

"This is the young man that I raised," Charmaine said.

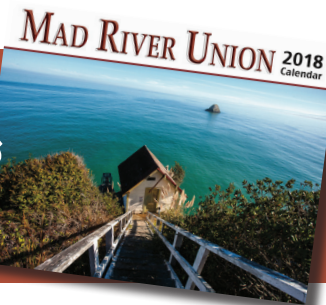
Subsequent speakers complained of a lack of support by the council and city, and said authorities weren't vigorously pursuing justice. "It's been seven months, and no progress," said one man.

Police Chief Tom Chapman wasn't present at the meeting, but said claims of inaction are "the furthest from the truth."

"This case is open and active and has been this entire time," he said. "We don't publicize progress on the case, we don't share inves-

LAWSON ❖ A4

❖ **INSIDE!**  
The Union's  
2018  
calendar



FRESH  
AND



EXCITING!

**OUR CATA** Arcata had a memorable week, with events that will leave a positive legacy for years to come. James Smith's "Many Hands" sculpture was dedicated in Cahill Park, with Arcata Elementary School students thoroughly enjoying the new fixture. Below, the Rotary Club of Arcata Sunrise held its annual Taste of the Holidays at the Arcata Community Center, with crews from Murphy's Markets and Wildberries Marketplace (left and right), and the Union's Lauraine Leblanc, Janine Volkmar and Kelly Brannon (center). Bottom, the ribbon cutting for the Humboldt Bay Trail North at the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary. PHOTOS BY KLH | UNION



**DEDICATION** Bay Trail fundraisers Rees Hughes and Dennis Rael, above, thanked supporters. Other speakers represented Caltrans and the Coastal Conservancy. Right, Mayor Susan Ornelas and young outdoorskids cut the ribbon, opening the new trail.



## HIGH SCHOOL BOARD CENSURES TRUSTEE



**SCHOoled** The Northern Humboldt Union High School District Board of Trustees met in the McKinleyville High School Library for its monthly meeting, which included the censure matter. KLH | UNION

Kevin L. Hoover  
MAD RIVER UNION

NOHUM – The Northern Humboldt Union High School District's (NHUSD) Board of Trustees censured one of its own Tuesday night, Nov. 14, citing multiple instances of misbehavior.

Boardmember Jennifer Knight was accused of conflict of interest, abuse of her position, inappropriate and misleading comments, disclosure of confidential information, bizarre personal behavior,

KNIGHT ❖ A3

## GAS LINE REROUTE CLOSSES 7TH ST.



**PG&E PARTY** Work has been going on for weeks at Arcata's Seventh Street between I and J streets, and it's not going to end anytime soon. PG&E is trying to reroute a 4-inch gas line that travels along the Jolly Giant Creek culvert, a tricky task requiring extreme care. The work may continue several more weeks. KLH | UNION

## Speeders bedevil Buttermilk

Kevin L. Hoover  
MAD RIVER UNION

**SUNNY BRAE** – Its surface newly smoothed by a million-dollar repaving project, the good news is that Sunny Brae's Buttermilk Lane no longer challenges drivers with car-shaking potholes. The bad news is, any traffic-calming benefits of the potholes are gone too.

Residents of the speeding-wracked street last week held a meeting to see what could be done. In attendance were some influential people who might actually be able to do something about the ever-speeding ve-

BUTTERMILK ❖ A4

**SOSDD** In 2007, Buttermilk Lane resident Jim Sorter tried to abate chronic speeding on his street with education and tracking errant vehicles. KLH | ARCATA EYE



**FREE! THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY MEALS THURSDAY Nov. 23**

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❖ MCKINLEYVILLE

Grocery Outlet opens

**MAD RIVER UNION**  
**MCKINLEYVILLE** – The new Grocery Outlet store will open in McKinleyville next week with a ribbon cutting on Thursday, Nov. 30 and a grand opening celebration on Saturday, Dec. 2.

Store owners Jesse and Rhonda Andriessen are opening the store at 1581 Central Ave. southeast of the intersection of Central Avenue and School Road.

The McKinleyville Chamber of Commerce will officiate a ribbon cutting ceremony at the store at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 30. During the ceremony, the store will donate \$500 in Grocery Outlet gift cards to the McKinleyville Family Resource Center and \$500 in gift cards to Arcata House Partnership.

Lunch will be provided by Brett Shuler Fine Catering from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a \$10 minimum purchase from the store.

The grand opening celebration is on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 7 a.m., to 10 p.m. The first 100 customers will receive 25 percent off coupons. The first 500 customers will receive free, eco-friendly reusable bags. From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., \$1 hot dogs and drink will be sold, with proceeds benefiting the McKinleyville Future Farmers of America.



**WELCOME TO TOWN**  
**Rhonda and Jesse Andriessen, the owners of the new Grocery Outlet.**  
PHOTO COURTESY GROCERY OUTLET

**Co-op Share the Spirit fundraiser**

**NORTH COAST CO-OP**

**HUMBOLDT** – North Coast Co-op invites the community to participate in the 28th annual Share the Spirit fundraiser from now through Jan. 1.

Every holiday season, the Co-op collects donations at the register for the local food bank, Food for People, to help support its programs. The funds generated over the holiday season help make it possible for Food for People to provide healthy foods to about 12,000 individuals of all ages countywide each month.

Last year, the community raised more than \$17,000 between the two Co-op stores.

“Food for People is grateful to all the Co-op employees and shoppers for their generous support of the annual Share the Spirit campaign,” Food for People Executive Director Anne Holcomb said. “It is hard for anyone to be their best self when they are hungry and worried about having enough to eat. We thank everyone for their spirit of partnership in creating a stronger, healthier and more resilient Humboldt County for all.”

Arcata Cashier Mara Segal started Share the Spirit in 1989. Segal, who has worked at North Coast Co-op for more than 30 years, placed gift bags at the registers with the slogan, “Your small change can make a big difference.” Every year since, customers have been encouraged to round up their purchase amount at the register towards Share the Spirit or give an additional amount. The Co-op matches total donations up to \$5,000.

**ARCATA COMMUNITY FOREST LECTURE** City of Arcata Environmental Services Department Forest Ecology Fall Lecture Series presents “Ninety-Two Years of Tree Growth and Death in the Arcata Community Forest” by Benjamin Iberle, HSU Forestry & Wildland Resources Dept., Thursday, Nov. 30 at 6 p.m. at the Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center 569 South G St.

Mature second-growth coast red-

wood forests are an important and uncommon resource in the redwood region, and the oldest stands in the Arcata Community Forest are some of the biggest and tallest second-growth to be found. Two one-acre observation plots were established in 1923 in the ACF by Dr. Woodbridge Metcalf of UC Berkeley and provide a truly unique opportunity to examine the development of such a forest over more than 90 years. Researchers from HSU have

surveyed the plots using modern methods and assembled a complete dataset from 1923 to 2015. Recent Master’s graduate Ben Iberle will share the results of their efforts and compare the trajectory of these plots to other second-growth examples and to characteristics of old-growth forests.

Call to reserve or seat, or just show up. For more information call (707) 822-8184 or email [amic@cityofarcata.org](mailto:amic@cityofarcata.org)

Mack Town gets bicycle/pedestrian safety dollars

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**  
**MCKINLEYVILLE** – The California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) and Humboldt County Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) Public Health branch are partnering to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety in McKinleyville.

DHHS’s Healthy Communities Division received a \$125,000, one-year grant from OTS, which will go toward educating the community about McKinleyville’s new traffic safety features, which include colorized bike lanes, pedestrian refuge islands and mid-block crossings on Central Avenue.

Funded through the grant, the Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program will provide opportunities to practice safe pedestrian and bicycling behavior.

Outreach will be conducted through upcoming bike rodeos, on-bike safety workshops and community rides, as well as a media campaign promoting vehicle and pedestrian safety. Much of the outreach will be

geared toward youth through McKinleyville’s Parks & Recreation, Teen & Community Center and local schools.

The Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System reports that between 2013 and 2014, McKinleyville experienced eight bicycle and seven pedestrian-involved collisions. Nearly half of those collisions occurred on Central Avenue. Of California counties, Humboldt has the second-highest rate of pedestrian collisions and the 10th highest rate of bicyclist collisions in the state.

Arcata’s Lindgren mill to become cannabis plant

**Patrick Evans**  
**MAD RIVER UNION**

**ARCATA** – One of the last lumber mills in Arcata will be converted to a cannabis facility. Arcata’s Planning Commission approved a Medical Cannabis Cultivation and Manufacturing Use permit for the Lindgren lathe mill Tuesday, Nov. 14.

The Lindgren mill in the southern portion of Arcata’s Medical Marijuana Innovation Zone (MMIZ) would remodel its existing 9,572-square-foot building for cannabis manufacturing and construct a second 15,700-square-foot facility for cultivation.

Mill owner Joe Lindgren is the latest to receive a permit to operate as a cannabis business in the MMIZ. The Lindgren mill property dates back to 1940, and currently employs 20 people. When the mill is converted to cannabis it could have up to 51 employees, according to the project plan.

Lindgren was present at the planning commission meeting to receive the decision and told the *Mad River Union* that the mill would not be closing any time soon, but declined to comment further. The city planning department included a condition in the project requiring Lindgren to improve a portion of Janes Creek running along the mill property line. Arcata has a storm water and drainage easement on the property, and as a part of approving the permit the city created a deed restriction on the property to protect the creek area.

The north fork of Janes Creek runs through the whole MMIZ, and is his-

torically a swampy low oxygen environment, in part due to the decades of industrial operations in the area according to Arcata Environmental Resources Director Mark Andre.

The stream flows slowly and is still choked with sawdust from the Humboldt Flakeboard Factory which closed in 2011. The north fork is home to amphibians and stickleback, a species of small fish common in northern oceans and rivers, but does not carry salmonids, Andre said. The easement would be planted with native trees such as red alder to improve the shade cover over the stream while invasive species like holly and ivy would be cleared. When improvements are completed in around five years the city will assume responsibility for maintaining the easement.

Supes approve interim cannabis permitting

**Daniel Mintz**  
**MAD RIVER UNION**

**HUMBOLDT** – As the state licensing of recreational use marijuana nears, Humboldt County is bridging a regulatory gap by allowing existing growers to gain interim local permits.

At its Nov. 14 meeting, the county’s Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to introduce an interim permitting ordinance. Growers whose permit applications for existing sites were deemed complete by July 14 of this year are eligible for interim permits unless they’ve strayed from what they described on their paperwork.

The interim permits are being advanced so that existing growers can apply for state licenses while their conventional permit applications are processed.

The Planning Department has estimated that 725 applicants are open to interim permits and their site conditions will be verified by county staff. The permits come with conditions that will be established through binding compliance agreements.

There has been some concern over whether the interim permitting will give cultivators a new advantage at the expense of environmental protection. But Planning Director John Ford told supervisors that approving interim permits only supports the county’s ongoing policy to allow existing growers to continue

operating within the areas they’ve occupied.

“This interim permit does not change that, it really honors that policy,” he said, adding that expansion or re-location of existing grows “puts them into a different category.”

The interim permits will only be issued through the end of December.

The concept of encouraging compliance with regulations was reiterated as supervisors discussed permitting issues. But Supervisor Mike Wilson said an emerging issue is that some of the county’s growers have impacted cultivation sites beyond the ability to restore them.

“We’re going to have sites that are very expensive to remediate with no income source to do it and we’re going to have orphan properties at that point, where the remediation is going to cost more than the value of the property,” he continued. “We’re starting to move in that direction.”

Later, Wilson said interim permitting is “an unusual way for us to do compliance,” as it may fail to catch violations. “I feel we’re bumping the edge of this,” he continued.

Supervisor Ryan Sundberg said he believes most of the permit applicants are serious about compliance and will succeed in getting conventional permits. Supervisor Estelle Fennell said the permitting process generally advances a new era of oversight.

With the regulatory push, “I don’t think there’s going to be an increased impact to the environment – quite the opposite,” Fennell said.

Also during public comment, North Coast Regional Department of Child Support Services Director Lisa Dugan advised that unpaid child support may result in revocation of state licenses. She strongly recommended that state license applicants contact her agency to work through child support debts.

In addition to unanimously approving the introduction of the interim permitting ordinance, supervisors approved amending the county’s medical marijuana production ordinance so that it also applies to recreational marijuana.

The changes will get final approval at the board’s Dec. 5 meeting and will go into effect 30 days later.

PUBLIC MEETINGS			
While the <i>Union</i> strives for accuracy, we also strongly recommend that you verify dates and times prior to setting out to attend any of the following public meetings.			
GOVERNING BODY	NEXT MEETING	MEETING LOCATION	MORE INFORMATION
<b>Arcata City Council</b> Meets first & third Wednesday	Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 6 p.m.	Council Chamber, Arcata City Hall 736 F St., Arcata	<a href="http://cityofarcata.org">cityofarcata.org</a>
<b>Arcata Fire District Board of Directors</b> Meets third Tuesday	Tuesday, Dec. 19 at 5:30 p.m.	Arcata Station Classroom 631 Ninth St., Arcata	<a href="http://arcatafire.org">arcatafire.org</a>
<b>Blue Lake City Council</b> Meets second & fourth Tuesday	Tuesday, Nov. 28 at 7 p.m.	Skinner Store Buidng behind City Hall	<a href="http://bluelake.ca.gov/city/council/agendas">bluelake.ca.gov/city/council/agendas</a>
<b>Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation &amp; Conservation District</b> Meets fourth Thursday	Thursday, Nov. 23 at 7 p.m.	Woodley Island Marina Meeting Room	<a href="http://humboldtбай.org/meetings-agendas-and-public-notice">humboldtбай.org/meetings-agendas-and-public-notice</a>
<b>Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District</b> Meets second Thursday	Thursday, Dec. 14 at 9 a.m.	Boardroom, Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District, 828 Seventh St., Eureka	<a href="http://hbmwd.com/meetings">hbmwd.com/meetings</a>
<b>Humboldt County Board of Supervisors</b> Meets every Tuesday	Tuesday, Nov. 28 at 9 a.m.	Board Chambers, Humboldt Co. Courthouse, 825 Fifth St., Eureka	<a href="http://humboldt.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx">humboldt.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx</a>
<b>Manila Community Services District</b> Meets third Thursday	Thursday, Dec. 21 at 6:30 p.m.	Room I, Manila Community Center, 1611 Peninsula Dr., Manila	<a href="http://manilacsd.com/Agendas_Minutes_and_Forms.htm">manilacsd.com/Agendas_Minutes_and_Forms.htm</a>
<b>McKinleyville Community Services District</b> Meets first Wednesday	Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 7 p.m.	Azalea Hall, 1620 Pickett Rd., McKinleyville	<a href="http://mckinleyvillecsd.com">mckinleyvillecsd.com</a>
<b>McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee</b> Meets last Wednesday	Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 6 p.m.	Middle School Conf. Center, 2275 Central Ave., McKinleyville	<a href="http://humboldt.gov.org/238/McKinleyville-Municipal-Advisory-Committ">humboldt.gov.org/238/McKinleyville-Municipal-Advisory-Committ</a>
<b>Trinidad City Council</b> Meets second Wednesday	Wednesday, Dec. 13 at 6 p.m.	Trinidad Town Hall, 409 Trinity St., Trinidad	<a href="http://trinidad.ca.gov">trinidad.ca.gov</a>
<b>Westhaven Community Services District</b> Meets third Wednesday	Wednesday, Dec. 20 at 7:30 p.m.	Westhaven Fire Hall, 446 Sixth Ave., Westhaven	(707) 677-0798 <a href="mailto:wcsd@suddenlinkmail.com">wcsd@suddenlinkmail.com</a>

FURNITURE

ON THE PLAZA

*Walking with a friend in the dark*

*is better than*

*walking alone in the light.*

Helen Keller

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# Knight | Trustee censured for multiple offenses colleagues say harmed students, staff, volunteers

❖ **FROM A1**

even lying and making a racially insensitive remark.

The allegations were contained in a resolution wrought by district Superintendent Roger Macdonald in collaboration with the school district’s attorney.

Following a lengthy and at times dramatic discussion before about two dozen community members in the McKinleyville High School Library, Resolution 5/2017-8 was adopted unanimously by the board, save for Knight, who did not vote.

**A searing hearing**

After a reading of the resolution by Macdonald, public speaker and Arcata High teacher JoAnn Moore called Knight “a liability to this district” and to taxpayers, and called on the board to censure Knight and for her to step down.

“I do not trust you,” Moore said. “You need to resign.”

Several colleagues acknowledged that Knight’s heart was in the right place and offered expressions of confidence in her core values. Still, they said, her behavior has been over the top on a chronic basis, and informal efforts to get her to play well with others have been met only with frustration at the escalating abuses.

“I know you don’t mean any disrespect,” Macdonald said, adding that intentions aren’t the point, as much as consequences to the district.

The net effects, said Knight’s critics, are to tarnish the district’s reputation, demoralize the staff and students, discourage volunteers and consume vast amounts of resources better spent on education.

Boardmember Brian Gerving said three superintendents had tried to work with her to temper her excesses to no avail, leaving censure the only option. He said Knight’s contributions didn’t negate his concerns about her ongoing behavior. “This conduct, in my mind, goes beyond that,” he said.

Least critical was boardmember Dana Silvernale, who acknowledged friendship with Knight. She said some details of the resolution were inaccurate, but declined Macdonald’s invitation to specify which ones. “There are a couple of whereases that don’t belong in it,” she said.

Silvernale said she would prefer that Knight’s issues be handled via a “restorative justice” process rather than as a board meeting matter. “I’m really uncomfortable with this process,” she said.

Boardmember Brian Lovell, seated next to but leaning away from Knight, said he’d given Knight the benefit of the doubt during consideration of a committee appointment she’d opposed, and abstained from voting. Since then, he’d realized that “there was no there here” and become “severely disappointed.”

“I lost my trust in you that night,” Lovell said. “I think you should resign.”

Knight disputed the censure resolution’s accuracy. She acknowledged that some points were valid but said it was “riddled with misunderstandings.”

She stressed that several of her supposed offenses were merely a result of her defending the district’s “policies and procedures,” a phrase she repeated multiple times over the course of the meeting.

She denied acting to promote any personal agenda. “It’s always been about policies and procedures and do we follow our own policies and procedures,” she insisted.

One matter Knight adamantly disputed was the characterization as racially insensitive a remark she had made at a county educational workshop about “... knowing what it is like to be a black person because she was a punk rocker.”

Knight spoke with passion about her efforts on behalf of students of color, Latinos and Native Americans, her advocacy for ethnic studies and concerns about minority overrepresentation in the school disciplinary process. She called the allegation of insensitivity “pretty slanderous.”

At one point she invoked 19th century French political scientist Alexis de Tocqueville, who cautioned against tyranny of the majority and the silencing of minorities.

“I think I’ve been admonished sufficiently, and I’ve expressed remorse,” Knight said. She continued to condemn the censure resolution as “riddled with falsehoods.”

Macdonald repeatedly implored Knight to correct any inaccuracies in the resolution, which he described as an important document. He said it had been compiled conservatively and with great effort and investment of his time. “This was a burden placed on me to ensure that only accurate information is in there,” he said.

But other than insisting that the racial comment was “taken out of context,” Knight declined to offer any point-by-point revisions, saying she’d not had time to scrutinize the document in detail over the weekend due to family obligations.

The embattled trustee accused other unnamed boardmembers of comparable infractions such as missing a key meeting. “There’s nothing in our policies and procedures that say you have to go to every meeting,” she said. “I should not be held to a higher standard than your other boardmembers,” Knight said, her voice rising with emotion.

“My emotions do not mean I’m not rational,” she said. She then accused her colleagues of acting as “judge, jury and executioner.”

She said that her previous apologies were being ignored, placing her in a position of “double jeopardy” with the looming censure. She wanted the resolution revised, but still didn’t specifying revisions as Macdonald had repeatedly asked.

**‘Policies and procedures’**

But the superintendent and her fellow boardmembers weren’t having it.

“The reason that this is here is because staff and the members of the board feel like their informal communication with you isn’t working,” Macdonald said. “This is a way to help you see that your behavior is so far out of bounds ... and all you’re being asked to do is not do it anymore.”

After some further and somewhat repetitive pushback by Knight about inaccuracies and misunderstandings, Board President Colleen Toste, who had been silent through the proceeding, spoke up with a forceful, four-point jeremiad summarizing her reasons for supporting the censure.

Toste said that regardless of Knight’s intentions in making the racial comment, people were deeply offended by a boardmember saying such a thing. “I talked to these people,” Toste said, “and it was terrible.”

She said that skipping the board’s annual budget approval meeting on a false premise was both inexcusable and a violation of the board’s by-laws.

“You shared with us that you were out of town,” Toste said. She said she had been leaving the Humboldt County Office of Education to drive to McKinleyville for that night’s budget meeting when she saw Knight sitting on a bench there.

Knight going missing left just two boardmembers, Toste and Gerving, wondering whether they’d have a quorum to approve the district’s budget at what Toste said was perhaps the most important board meeting of the year.

Toste further denied that the resolution mischaracterized Knight’s actions. “There are not falsehoods in the document,” she said.

But she was most insistent, even somewhat indignant, in countering Knight’s repeated claims about adhering to policies and procedures. “I find it really ironic that you are reiterating that the district must follow ‘policies and procedures’ when you are continuing to violate 10 by-laws and policies,” Toste said in exasperated tones, alluding to the charges in the resolution and slapping the table for emphasis. This brought a wave of applause from the audience.

Continued Toste, “And we ask you to stop, and you don’t. And we ask you again to stop, and you don’t. And months go by, and we ask you to stop, and you don’t. Every single one of these by-laws and policies that we’ve reiterated and requested, we’ve instructed you, we’ve trained, we’ve had training, and over and over and over you are refusing to follow them.”

Knight contested that her behavior was objectionable at multiple meetings, and further noted that another unnamed member had also missed a key meeting, one at which Macdonald had been hired.

“We have to follow policies and procedures as a district, we have to follow what’s written in the handbooks and I have to follow policies and procedures as a boardmember,” she said. “Missing a meeting isn’t a violation of our policies and procedures. It’s not in our policies and procedures.”

“There you go again,” objected Lovell, identifying himself as the boardmember Knight was anonymously citing. He said he had worked out his vacation-related absence well in advance. “You cannot deflect your problem on me for something I took care of in a reasonable way,” Lovell said.

McKinleyville High School Principal Nic Collart said Knight had a “big heart for underrepresented youth and ethnic minorities.” But he said he was present at the training meeting at which Knight had made the remark likening being a black male to being a punk rocker in San Francisco, and that it “minimized to me the African-American male experience.” He said others present, who didn’t know the context or her good intentions, were unsettled by the statement as well. “I did not feel it was appropriate,” Collart said.

Gerving said that Knight’s critical statements about Arcata High coaches in a previous meeting could follow them

around forever. “You can’t apologize away some of these actions,” he said. “If you Google their names now, I’m sure that you’ll find mentions of this process,” he said. Taken at face value, Gerving said, the online record could suggest that there was some validity to her “hurtful” criticisms and unfairly taint the coaches’ reputations from here on out.

Toste said the time for mere contrition and ad hoc apologies had passed. “Honestly, if there were a violation once, one by-law, you could apologize that away. If there were another one a year later, maybe you could apologize that away. But over and over and this one and that one and that one and this one,” she said. “I can’t allow our staff and our families and our district to continue this way ... it’s not fair to our hardworking staff members and our hardworking parents who care about their kids’ education. It’s not OK.”

Knight then made one last stand, contesting that there was any pattern of repeated offenses and again challenging the resolution’s accuracy. “I’d like to ask what other meetings this was a problem at,” she demanded. “We have two instances here which I’ve apologized for, but this isn’t a consistent thing that happens at every board meeting. It just doesn’t.”

She accused the board of piling on in the resolution and seeking out excuses to discipline her. “We’re looking for all these reasons to find censure,” she said. She challenged her colleagues to cite any other meetings where she had behaved inappropriately.

“Tonight,” Lovell said.

Gerving then moved to adopt the resolution, and Lovell seconded the motion. The vote followed, and the censure resolution was adopted with no opposition.

It was the NHHSD board’s most significant self-policing since 2013, when it called for the resignation of then-member Dan Johnson for plagiarizing a commencement address. He apologized but didn’t resign.

**HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT PLANS** On Tuesday, Dec. 5 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Arcata High School Library, 1720 M St. in Arcata, Northern Humboldt Union High School District will host a community meeting regarding the district’s Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) goals for the 2017-18 school year. NHHSD includes Arcata High, McKinleyville High, Six Rivers Charter High, and Pacific Coast and Tsurai High Schools. The LCAP is a three-year, district-level plan that is updated annually. The plan describes the school district’s key goals for students as well as the specific actions the district will take to achieve the goals and the means (metrics) used to measure progress. Parents and students of the district are encouraged to participate and provide input. Contact Tammy Pires, Superintendent’s Secretary, at (707) 839-6481 if you have any questions.

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# Measure Z funding focused on road repairs

**Daniel Mintz**  
MAD RIVER UNION

HUMBOLDT – Given \$700,000 of unspent Measure Z public safety tax revenue, Humboldt County’s Board of Supervisors has decided to spend most of it on road maintenance.

The link between public safety and the condition of the county’s roads was emphasized as supervisors made Measure Z spending decisions at their Nov. 14 meeting.

Up for use is \$1 million in unspent Measure Z funding in the current fiscal year, with about \$335,000 of it having been previously set aside for alcohol and drug treatment services.

County department heads made cases for using the remaining money on important public safety-related needs.

County Sheriff Billy Honsal described two radio communication needs – doing a feasibility study on consolidation of dispatch services and setting money aside for contribution to a multi-million dollar upgrade of the county’s “failing” radio system infrastructure.

But county roads are also failing and there’s a huge maintenance backlog. Senate Bill 1, the state’s transportation funding law, will channel tax revenue to local roads but county Public Works Director Tom Mattson said the need for funding far out-

weighs any one source of it.

“I know we have SB 1 coming but as I’ve said and said and said, that’s just one-third of what we need to just keep our roads the way they are now,” he continued.

Mattson said there are between 160 and 170 storm-damaged road sites in unincorporated areas “that didn’t get touched last year because we didn’t have the money.” Federal approval of relief funding has only been gained for 11 sites, he continued.

The tab for last year’s storm damage to roads is \$20 million, said Mattson, and even if it was fully covered the county would have to pay a \$2 million match.

“Our roads fund is running on fumes right now,” Mattson told supervisors.

Supervisor Mike Wilson had suggested holding the unspent money for next year but Mattson said that putting off road work will make it more expensive as the price of asphalt inflates.

In discussing the Sheriff Office’s request for funding the radio infrastructure project, County Administrative Officer Amy Nilsen said that any county contribution to it will have a leveraging effect as grant funding is sought.

A consultant has estimated that the project will cost \$4 million but it will enhance emergency and public

works responses.

“We really have a communications inability in this county, in our remote areas, and that’s where we have vulnerable populations and that’s where we can’t get to people during winter storms,” said Nilsen, adding that any contribution would “help move this project forward.”

Supervisor Rex Bohn returned the focus to roads. He said, “I’m sorry, our roads are the living hell.”

Wilson questioned whether there’s public support for using Measure Z funds on roads, as a transportation ballot measure proposed by the Humboldt County Association of Governments was rejected by voters last year.

But Supervisor Estelle Fennell said that measure was subsequent to Measure Z, which included road improvements in its list of goals. She said road-related needs have direct public safety relevance and are readily observable.

“It’s not so much even the complaints and the concerns, it’s just seeing it – there is a pressing safety issue out there with regard to our roads,” she continued.

After discussion and amendments to an initial motion, supervisors voted to use \$500,000 of the unspent tax revenue on county road work.

The county is expecting \$11 million of Measure Z revenue in the current fiscal year.

# Guilty of assault, arson

**HUMBOLDT COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

MANILA– Humboldt County District Attorney Maggie Fleming announced that on Nov. 16 a jury found 56-year-old Anthony Domenico of Manila guilty of arson of an inhabited structure and assault with a deadly weapon. Domenico could serve nine years for these two felonies; sentencing is scheduled for Dec. 14.

The charges stemmed from an incident on Aug. 18 in Manila, when the defendant assaulted Thomas Uber with a tree branch, knocking him to the ground and causing a 4-inch cut on his head. After Uber fled to call 911, his camp structure was set on fire.

Uber lost most of his personal possessions in the fire. In responding to the arson report, Monica Petruzzelli of KIEM-News Channel 3 encountered the defendant, who twice admitted to arson on camera, when he thought the camera was off.

The case was investigated by the Humboldt County Sheriff’s Department. Deputy District Attorney Trent Timm prosecuted the case with the assistance of District Attorney Investigator Marvin Kirkpatrick, Victim Witness Advocate Marybeth Bian and Arcata Fire District Battalion Chief Sean Campbell.



Anthony Domenico

# Tourists make up robbery story

**REDWOOD NATIONAL & STATE PARKS**

LADY BIRD JOHNSON GROVE – Park law enforcement rangers have determined the report from tourists of being robbed at gunpoint near the Lady Bird Johnson trailhead of Redwood National and State Parks on Nov. 3 was not true.

No armed robbery took place within the parks and visitors should not be concerned about exploring the wonders of their public lands.

Upon notification of robbery, park law enforcement rangers immediately began investigating the area along Bald Hills Road where the incident allegedly took place, and began comparing its time frame with similar incidents reported outside park boundaries.

While the victims claimed that multiple shots were fired from an assault-style rifle, no shell casings were found on the ground. In addition, other National Park Service employees in the area at the same time as the alleged robbery heard no shots fired.

Rangers then conducted multiple witness interviews, including the land owner of the first robbery that took place off Bald Hills Road on private land.

The rangers were then able, through a third party, to contact the five tourists. They admitted that they fabricated the park robbery story because they were concerned about being associated with activities at a local marijuana operation.

Park law enforcement rangers are continuing their investigation into the matter and are collaborating with the Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office.

The reduced crowds during fall and winter months, combined with the enhanced beauty of rain-washed forests make this a very enjoyable time of year for scenic drives and trail strolls.

However, for safety when traveling and parking in remote areas it is always prudent to stow your valuables, electronics and accessories well out of sight – or better yet, bring them with you.

Lock and alarm your vehicle, and be aware of your surroundings.

Redwood National and State Parks law enforcement officers encourage anyone with information regarding the Bald Hills Road robberies or any suspected crime within the parks to call the park crime tip line at (707) 465-7353.

# Lawson | 7 months ❖ FROM A1

tigative steps and strategies.”

Chapman said “vital” evidence is still being processed, and that “this is the highest priority case that we have.”

Following Early Oral Communication, City Manager Karen Diemer said the city is committed to installing lighting on the pedestrian walkway over U.S. Highway 101 that links Humboldt State to Northtown, to improve student safety. The work is budgeted for this fiscal year, but the usual jurisdictional issues could delay the project’s completion until as late as next June.

Diemer also outlined the sweeping equity initiatives the city and Humboldt State have in progress to improve student comfort and safety, particularly for students of color.

“We want the students here in Arcata,” Diemer said. “We want to welcome and to feel welcoming to the students in Arcata. We want you to stay and raise families and open businesses and become entrepreneurs, ’cause that’s how Arcata has been built over time.”

# Buttermilk | Smooth and speedy ❖ FROM A1

ehicles – City Manager Karen Diemer, City Councilmember Brett Watson, City Manager Karen Diemer, Third District Supervisor Mike Wilson and Humboldt County Public Works Director Tom Mattson.

The city/county representation was because Buttermilk Lane includes both jurisdictions.

Resident Cindy Kuttner said she’s had friends struck by cars, leaving her with special awareness of speeders. “It gets me upset when I see people go fast,” she said.

She wanted the speed limit reduced to 20 mph, but Mattson said some speeders will forever be beyond reach of the rules. “There are people who are never going to obey the law,” he said. “We call them the 5 percenters.”

Wilson said he gets two types of calls from constituents on speed-wracked streets: first, they demand – and get – pavement improvements. This leads to a second wave of calls complaining of speeders on the newly smoothed streets.

Residents critiqued the recent set of improvements installed on the street. Speed humps may be effective, but more would be useful. But the problem with them is that they slow down emergency vehicles along with others. There are none on the county stretch of the street from Margaret Lane to Baywood Golf and Country Club and few speed limit signs.

Chinn said a meeting including residents, Baywood and Sunny Brae Middle School could be useful. “We’re saying, ‘You’re part of the solution,’” he said.

Residents said the street is underserved by Arcata Police. The Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office and California Highway Patrol are unlikely to commit resources to traffic enforcement there, due to resource constraints and it being outside their central mission.

The new roundabout at Margaret Lane has what some consider confusing signage, which Diemer said she would look into. Other items on her post-meeting to-do list include looking at the street’s landscaping, and signage both on Buttermilk Lane and Bayside Road.

## CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

- Celebrities
- Actor Garrett
- Accounting specialists, for short
- Interlaced
- Ireland, to the Irish
- Gymnast Korbout
- Public building
- \_\_\_ Linda, California
- Actual
- Picture
- Give
- That femme
- Removes
- United
- Cruise ship
- Traveler’s way: abbr.
- Cars used by a dealer, for short
- Anatomical partitions
- Object
- Respond
- Expired
- \_\_\_ T
- Nosy person
- Fragrant neckware
- Narratives
- Enthusiastic
- Those easily victimized
- Czech river
- Honey factory
- Guiding sponsorship
- Pain
- Splinter group
- “Stop!” on the seas
- Undesirable spots
- Ending for Ann or Nan
- French income
- Rumanian coins
- Raise
- German city

**DOWN**

- Switch
- Bull
- State with conviction
- Leased
- Was very unfriendly
- Misrepresent
- Major disturbance
- Part of a river
- Benumb
- Got a monopoly on
- Skirt feature
- Hard stone
- Realtor’s delights
- Rapidly growing tree
- Spanish shouts
- Nightclub
- Part of a teacup
- Chancellor \_\_\_ von Bismarck
- Requirement
- Bank transactions
- Level, raised areas
- Stack
- Ending for 7 numbers
- Mine entrance
- Answering machine’s recordings
- Amphibians
- Den
- Prime
- Steamy spring
- Uses a number 1 wood
- Of Pius X
- Quickly
- Cheaply made
- External
- Judicial proceedings
- Fires
- This: Sp.
- British submachine gun
- Champagne season

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67					68					69				

Solution on page B3

The weekly crossword is brought to you by **KINETIC KOFFEE**  
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## On The House...

**Joanie and John Frederick**

### CURB APPEAL

“Curb appeal” is a phrase that is used to describe a home that looks “great” to passersby. Sometimes, as real estate agents, we encourage our clients to offer an open house because buyers who admire a home’s exterior often prove to be our most valuable prospects.

An investment in attractive landscaping can help your home sell more quickly. If you have a moderately green thumb, you can get valuable free advice from local nurseries. They can give you tips on what will look good in your yard, considering the time of year, the available light, and the type of plants that do well in the area. You will probably be able to choose from many attractive low-maintenance plants that will add color and vitality to your yard. Native plants that flourish even in hardship conditions are excellent additions to a landscape design. Whatever the season, a few dollars invested in your front yard will usually reap great benefits.

For professional advice on all aspects of buying or selling real estate, call Joanie Frederick, Broker, Azalea Realty, (707) 362-0144, or check out our website at [www.azalearealty.com](http://www.azalearealty.com).

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## November STORY TIME

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Arcata Calif.



# OPINION

## Ode to Buttermilk Lane

When driving up Buttermilk Lane  
Please remember a lane is a lane.  
It isn't a highway. It isn't a street.  
It isn't a wide boulevard.  
It's narrow. It's smooth now, and houses  
are here.  
There's sometimes no sidewalk, just yard.  
So when driving down Buttermilk Lane  
Please remember a lane is a lane:  
Where grownups are walking  
their kids in their strollers,  
And dogs on their leashes.  
Skateboard and bike rollers  
Are rolling downhill, so are you,  
so slow down!  
Remember, it's Buttermilk Lane.  
When driving on Buttermilk Lane  
There's lots more than seconds to gain.  
Take your time. Look around.  
It's a lovely lane, sweet.  
With horses, cute houses, a visual treat.  
Smile at the neighbors,  
they're easy to greet.  
25 m.p.h. is the name of the game  
When driving on Buttermilk Lane.

Cindy Kuttner  
Sunny Brae

## Decent treatment for all

This morning I'm sitting in a pool of water, huddled under my tarp in a field – homeless in Arcata. It occurred to me it would be a good time to write to the *Mad River Union*.  
I have learned that the “(cold) extreme weather shelter” wouldn't be available until Dec. 1, at the earliest. Wow! How nice and How humane!  
There are a number of statutes, laws and codes in place to protect our animal companions and beasts of the field. Horses, cattle, goats, etc. living outside must be provided with a three-sided roofed shelter; small animals, too, who live outside.

## ❖ LETTERS

All animals must be given food and water and adequate space to move freely. They must be kept free from disease or treated properly or humanely. If any violations of these laws occur, the owner may be imprisoned, fined or both.  
Wouldn't it be nice if human beings were afforded the same protections? Imagine – no homeless, unsheltered people anymore. No women with their babies and children, no young adults or ill and disabled and elders. Wouldn't that be something!  
While our nation stands great with bombs and foreign interventions, we also stand poor in providing proper disaster relief – similarly requirements of clean water, showers and toilets and at least tents and the need for a place for the homeless.  
If anyone suffers from basic human need in this country, that is one too many and for no good reason.  
Demand proper low-cost housing Demand affordable access to health care. Demand for all decent human treatment.  
Michael Langdon  
Homeless in Arcata

## Harm reduction needed

The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County has a “Public Health Services” position which states that:  
• Health care should be obtainable by all.  
• The rights and dignity of the individual should be safeguarded at all times.  
• Social services are an important part of patient care.  
An important part of healthcare is treatment for addiction. Recently, President Trump hasdeclared the opioid addiction crisis a public health emergency. One important tool for fighting this epidemic is harm reduction.

Harm reduction is a set of practical, evidence-based strategies and interventions that seeks to reduce the harms associated with drug use to both the person using drugs and their community. Harm reduction helps prevent the spread of disease through the exchange of syringes, and incorporates public health, public safety and social justice. Most importantly, harm reduction treats each person with dignity and respect while helping them on the uncertain path to recovery.  
The League of Women Voters of Humboldt County strongly supports harm reduction programs in Humboldt County.  
Rollin Richmond  
President, League of Women Voters of Humboldt County  
Mary Lou Lowry  
Social Policy Director, League of Women Voters of Humboldt County

## Humboldt Can Help

On October 20, we launched Humboldt Can Help – a fundraiser for Puerto Rico. Since then, thanks to the support of the local community we were able to raise a little over five and a half thousand dollars. We had an excellent music and theatre festival at the Rooney Amphitheatre at Dell'Arte which was well attended considering the cold weather and the impromptu nature of this event.  
A large section of the Dell'Arte famiglia is comprised of students from around the world who roll the dice and make the decision to move to Humboldt County. Interestingly enough they always find a sense of home here.  
In moments of crisis, it is important to find ways to remind our students that this home still exists. In this particular instance, this reminder manifested itself in the form of a fundraiser.  
We now move on to the final leg of the

fundraiser, getting the funds and the supplies to our partners in Puerto Rico. We are very grateful to you for reaching out to the community on behalf of us; it was impassioned, genuine and spoke to the reality of this catastrophe that is largely being ignored.  
Thank you once again,  
Tushar Mathew, marketing Coordinator  
Dell'Arte International, Blue Lake

## Humboldt Bay needs rail line

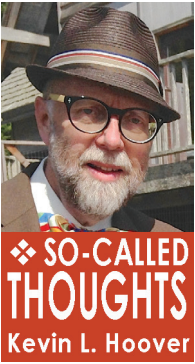
The feasibility of establishing rail service to the south of Eureka is again being discussed. With the large investment needed to rebuild the rail lines' infrastructure, especially through the Eel River corridor, so high, the idea is financially unattainable.  
My wife and I recently returned from Colorado, where we spent nine days traveling on true historic railroads. While enjoying the historic fabric of the rail lines, I thought of the Timber Heritage Association's quest to establish such a rail line, along with a museum in our community.  
Because of their popularity reservations are required a year in advance. We were informed that the railroads account for 50 percent of the area's economy.  
Not only would establishing a rail line around the bay, the Timber Heritage Association could partner with the Maritime Society and create a package excursion trip around the bay, along with a bay cruise. This could not only bring tourists to Old Town, but to the whole of Eureka.  
In time, transportation could be provided as far south as Fortuna.  
The Timber Heritage Association has been working hard and putting a lot of energy into making this happen. But they needed continued community support. So if this sounds like a good idea to you, please support their efforts

Scott Baker  
McKinleyville

# A profound, predictable change is about to end a big problem

And probably start others, but regardless, we're laying down a marker here that speeding as we know it is soon to end

At recent public meetings, concerned citizens have alluded to the newly available crime visualizations (viewable at [arcata.crimographics.com](http://arcata.crimographics.com)).  
Among the other informative things one can now observe online are heat maps of crime frequency in Arcata's different neighborhoods. To no one's surprise, the Plaza and other heavily-used public areas see a lot of police activity.  
It's only logical to wonder, and fair to ask why we don't have security cameras trained on these locations. While images from crime scenes often show only blurry, hoodie-cloaked figures with obscured faces, there are other instances when recorded video has aided in apprehending bad guys. Also, the cams' mere presence can deter crime.



In keeping with the tense tenor of our times, the camera question has been posed to City of Arcata officials in the most antagonistic way possible, in part as an accusation inferring incompetence, neglect or disinterest. Along the lines of, “You’ve known for years these are the crime area but you’ve done *nothing* to install cameras?”  
Unfortunately, our public dialogue these days often defaults to these kinds of accusa-questions, with the cheap point-scoring that might be found in a bad personal relationship. That sort of thing already promises to pollute upcoming and important discussions of The Village housing project.  
There's a reason we don't have Plaza cams – the public hated the idea. In 2001, a previous police chief tried to get one installed atop the then-Bank of America. There had already been one low-resolution blurrycam showing the western part of the Plaza mounted in the front window of the fourth floor of Jacoby's Storehouse. Oh, the uproar.  
The old *Arcata Eye* newspaper took numerous hostile phone

calls and letters from people who assumed the newspaper was behind the Jacoby's cam. It wasn't.  
The police chief's initiative was decried by Arcata's civil libertarians as an intrusive manifestation of the “surveillance state.” There was fiery testimony at City Council meetings about encroaching Big Brotherism. A cardboard sign on the Plaza warned users about being surveilled. Humboldt State's camera on the pedestrian overcrossing was repeatedly smashed out.  
And thus, the effort to install a crime-fighting PlazaCam died.  
What was everyone missing in that imbroglio? The huge cultural change that was coming with the advent of smartphones. No one at the time realized that 16 years later, almost everyone would be walking around with an Internet-connected camera in their pocket, and that the turn-of-the-century's quaint standards of privacy were about to go the way of the buggy whip and pay telephone.  
The protestations against photo intrusion were doomed, and any expectation of privacy in public spaces is gone on the electromagnetic winds of World Wide Web and high-speed Wi-Fi connectivity.  
As recently as 2007, the notion of Plaza-watching cameras was vigorously decried by civil libertarians. That was the year I first saw people taking pics on their flip-phones, at a Las Vegas hotel.  
So, if you wonder why the authorities haven't installed cameras on the Plaza, it's because back then, they were flamed with blowtorches of bluster – not unlike the hostile questions they're getting now for having done what the public demanded in 2001, when cams were originally suggested.  
It's kind of fun to speculate how the cam opponents back in the day would have reacted, had they been told this huge, technology-driven cultural change was



16 YEARS AGO The blurry PlazaCam in Jacoby's Storehouse prompted this cardboard warning sign. KLH | ARCATÁ EYE

coming. Probably by defending the mistake, in keeping with human nature.  
But it was all entirely predictable – there were digital cameras and cell phones at the time, just not of the convergent sophistication we have now.  
Here comes something similar  
Why does this old news matter? Because once again, we aren't foreseeing the obvious – a huge and fundamental change that isn't just coming, it's plainly visible and already well underway.  
Last week, exasperated Buttermilk Lane residents gathered to discuss further ways of calming traffic on that speed-wracked street. Again, 15 or so years ago, a resident there tried everything from recording license plate numbers of speeders for public shaming to imploring them with signs about cats that had been killed. It didn't work.  
Education is for the educable. The rest don't care, and are immune. Just as the only thing that stops the *lazziez-faire*, anything-goes Plazoids from being jerks is cops, the only thing that slows cars down is physical barriers. Potholes and traffic calming will never be enough to stop the speeders.  
Buttermilk Lane's DNA as a long straightaway is as a speeding corridor. So are the pits and pot-

holes that the recent million-dollar resurfacing has temporarily alleviated. The street got its name because milk from dairies up the street had turned to buttermilk by the time it reached the bottom, churned by the jostling ride.  
But even when it's in its default state of moonscaped pavement, the neighborhood-degrading speeding never stops. But you know what? It's going to, and fairly soon – just not because of all the do-gooder measures.  
And not just on Buttermilk Lane. Everywhere. Even on Old Arcata Road, another street on which the residents have been trying to stop speeding for decades and with next-to-no success.  
Autonomous vehicles are now on the road in limited but growing numbers. They're used for specialized reasons now as the technology advances. But in a few years, Level 5 – that is, fully autonomous cars and trucks – will be common on the road. And a few years beyond that, human-piloted vehicles will be a minority. A few years more, and self-driven cars will be illegal.  
The reason is, they won't be as safe. They'll also be a lot more expensive to insure and operate.  
It's been pointed out that a person's car is only in use maybe 5 percent of the time. Autonomous cars will change that, allowing you to make money off your car when you aren't using it.  
Anyone who wants to will be able to join a web-based organization that allows them to let their car be used by others. People without a car will register with the site, then be able to summon a car and for a fee, have it pick them up and take them somewhere. The car owner will be making money off it while they aren't using it.  
This new tech will be as commonplace as today's smartphones. But the key is, the robo-vehicles will scrupulously adhere to speed limits and all other traffic regs. They won't know how not to. The impatient, formerly speeding-prone drivers inside won't be

mashing the gas pedal, because they'll be reading books, surfing the web, posting to Facebook or Twitter or GruntPlook or whatever forum is in vogue a decade from now. Actually, they'll probably be on the beach in Tahiti thanks to some immersive virtual reality technology.  
In the case of commercial vehicles like the speeding log trucks and delivery vehicles, there probably won't even be a person inside.  
Feel free to dismiss all this as a *deus ex machina* dream, a tech-fanboy flight of fancy. A request though: please put any dismissive jeers in publishable form, so that, in another 16 years, we can pick up 2017-vintage *Unions* and knowingly tsk-tsk about this particular failure of foresight.  
It's all in the works and inevitable, thanks to billions in investments by vehicle manufacturers who are racing each other to implement these no-longer exotic technologies.  
Along with improved safety, there will be any number of unanticipated consequences, helpful and otherwise. One is that the costly speed bumps we've been installing, and which slow down emergency responders as well as speeders, will be unnecessary, and will be removed.  
The recent list of Plaza improvements by a transportation activist group, for all their edginess, don't incorporate the inevitability of autonomous vehicles either. The coming City Council study session on Plaza reforms ought to be mindful of transportation techno-innovations to come, or some of their findings and actions may turn out to be unhelpful, and consigned to irrelevance.  
Hopefully any use of butcher paper at the session will have a better outcome than during prior uses.  
We can't foresee all the effects, but what we can predict with complete certainty is that autonomous vehicles are arriving, and that they will change transportation profoundly and permanently, on Buttermilk Lane and beyond.





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## Cool satellite launched

**Roger Eckart**  
UNION SPACE CORRESPONDENT  
EARTH — JPSS-1 launched into the early morning misty gloom over Vandenberg Air Force Base last Saturday morning.

Most folks are unaware of ongoing launches by NASA and their various commercial partners and simply accept the improvements in our daily lives. Mission scientists are planning for years in advance. Seeking the best proven instruments to gather the data they deem necessary for expanding our knowledge of Earth and our solar system.

JPSS-1, the Joint Polar Satellite System, first of four, is a weather satellite

designed to complement existing weather satellites and provide increased accuracy in the seven-day weather forecasts we receive. The forecasts we use to plan our Thanksgiving travels and daily routines.

After three delays, the launch of JPSS-1 atop a ULA Delta II rocket was successful.

JPSS-1 will become NOAA 20 when fully operational after it is tested on orbit and finally commissioned. It will mirror SUOMI-NPP launched in 2011, in a sun synchronous polar orbit, thus the necessity of a launch from Vandenberg AFB, and the 66-second launch window.



**ROGER THAT** Arcatan Roger Eckart at Vandenberg AFB with the United Launch Alliance Delta II/JPSS-1.

These satellites have very similar instruments and maintain the same orbit 180 degrees apart, passing over the same spot on earth twice per day at the same solar time. They provide additional information to the geo-synchronous GOES weather satellites, GOES-16 being the most recent.

JPSS-1's instruments include a grab bag of acronyms but they measure data

in the infrared and microwave range and give more precise information on temperature, pressure, and moisture, as well as ozone. The detail of their data is greatly improved and thus the greater accuracy of the forecast weather.

One instrument will prove especially useful in California. It is the VIIRS or Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite, which provides data usable by CalFire in their efforts to respond appropriately to potential and ongoing fire incidents. Jana Luis, CalFire division chief, predictive services, stated in the pre-launch science briefing that current weather satellite data allowed CalFire to pre-position four of the six California Incident Management teams prior to the day of catastrophic fires recently in Northern California. This predictive ability can be immensely useful in our local forests as well.



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## FOR THE LOVE OF LUNA

**LUNA THRIVES** Despite a prediction that up to 80 percent of the redwood tree's canopy would die back following a chainsaw attack, 17 years later, Luna's foliage remains lush and green.

PHOTO BY STUART MOSKOWITZ

**Lauraine Leblanc**  
MAD RIVER UNION

**HUMBOLDT** – It's a rainy Thursday in early November, and a small group of hikers – researchers, students, teachers and one reporter – ascend a steep ridge trail just south of Scotia. Led by Stuart Moskowitz of Sanctuary Forest, we are on a trip to check on Luna, the iconic redwood tree that became the focus of international attention two decades ago, when environmental activist Julia Butterfly Hill gave two years of her life to protest clear-cut logging by the Pacific Lumber/Maxxam Corporation. [See timeline below.]

After a half mile of steep, slippery climbing and bushwacking to clear the existing trail, the rocky forest path we follow narrows, with a steep dropoff to the left. Nervous, I am watching my feet, but am suddenly aware that the other hikers have come to a halt. I stop too, look up, and there she is: Luna. The thousand-year-old tree, today easily recognizable by the massive steel braces that prevent her from toppling, is truly awe-inspiring.

Bringing up the rear, Moskowitz enters the narrow clearing that surrounds the tree. Immediately, he crouches and enters

a hollow – a charred fire scar that predates the tree-sit – at Luna's base, with the ease and familiarity of a bear entering its den. He sits, leaning against the tree, takes off his glasses, and closes his eyes. A moment of reverent silence falls over the group. Then the storytelling begins.

### Luna's local Lorax

Like the iconic Dr. Seuss character The Lorax, Moskowitz speaks for the tree. A member of the board of Sanctuary Forest, he has been Luna's caretaker since 2000, when the organization was invited to be the covenantee in the agreement struck between Hill and Pacific Lumber/Maxxam Corporation to end her tree-sit. Sanctuary Forest, "a land and water trust whose mission is to conserve the Mattole River watershed and surrounding areas," monitors Luna and her surrounding three-acre easement.

For 17 years now, Moskowitz has tended to Luna, visiting her two or three times a year, sometimes more. He spends much more time than that talking about Luna, telling her story, as he did in a lecture last October at the Natural History Museum in Arcata.

As Hill noted in *The Legacy of Luna*, her engaging and harrowing account of her time with Luna (published in 2000), "the whole point of the tree-sit ... was to draw the public's attention to the problem" of clear-cut logging. It has now fallen to Moskowitz to cultivate and nurture the ongoing public interest in Luna by giving talks and interviews, as well as by assisting writers, researchers, filmmakers and other documentarians in telling their own versions of her tale, including this one.

At the center is always Luna herself, the oldest tree and largest in the area, with her unknown and untold thousand-year history. Besides Hill's own account, Luna has been the subject of numerous newspaper articles, of a paper by a Jungian analyst, of student essays and school curricula. She has been featured in numerous books, including *Luna & Me*, a 2015 book for children by Jenny Sue Kostecki-Shaw and, most recently in National Geographic's *Wise Trees*, which was published this past October. She is also the only tree featured in the 2006 book, *The Visionary State: A Journey Through California's Spiritual Landscape*.

Moskowitz pointed out that Luna's story still generates international attention. In June 2016, he said, German weekly newspaper *Die Zeit* dispatched a science reporter to Humboldt County to write Luna's story; he expects the paper to run a feature this December to mark the 20th anniversary of Hill's ascension into Luna. Wikipedia notes that Hill's story also inspired a 2017 Swedish children's book, *Julia räddar skogen* (*Julia saves the forest*) by Niklas Hill and Anna Palmqvist, a 12th-season episode of *The Simpsons*, a documentary film, *Butterfly*, released in 2000, and numerous songs by the likes of Neil Young, the Red Hot Chili Peppers and Idina Menzel, among others.

Interest has increased with the 20-year anniversary. In his talk, Moskowitz spoke of shepherding a French film crew for a week this past summer as they filmed an



**Stuart Moskowitz**

LUNA ❖ B3



**TRIUMPH OVER IMPENDING DARKNESS** Gaia Mencagli is The Snow Queen in Dell'Arte's eponymous 37th annual touring holiday show. PHOTO COURTESY DELL'ARTE

### DELL'ARTE INTERNATIONAL

**BLUE LAKE** – The Dell'Arte Company's annual holiday show tour, now in its 37th year, ushers in the festive season with an adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's *The Snow Queen*. A timeless tale of a child's spirit triumphing over impending darkness, *The Snow Queen* begins its run in the Carlo Theatre, 131 H St. in Blue Lake, Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24 and 25 at 7:30 p.m.

When a magical mirror shatters and two pieces fall into the heart and eye of young Kai, his friend Gerda must embark on a journey of a lifetime to set things right and eventually embrace the power within her. *The Snow Queen* is an enthralling holiday spectacle for the whole family and features an assortment of magical characters, which include a trio of bumbling trolls, a talking tree and a flying reindeer.

The Dell'Arte Company's adaptation of *The Snow Queen* is directed by Dell'Arte Producing Artistic Director Michael Fields and is a bold re-telling of the classic holiday tale that comprises original music and robust physical storytelling created and performed by this year's international cast.

Featured are Matilda Lindström from Finland, Gaia Mencagli from Denmark and Gaby Haight, Eric Jones, Natashaia

Marshall, Chase Perkins, Fay Steddum and Jacob Timmons from the U.S.

Dell'Arte strives to make family holiday entertainment available to both rural and urban communities that rarely see live professional theatre. Venues range from large, lofty theatres to local elementary school cafeterias. The Dell'Arte Holiday Show reaches approximately 5,000 to 8,000 people each year, including many school-age children.

This production will tour the North Coast, with stops in Orick, Arcata, McKinleyville, Eureka, Cave Junction, Klamath, Bridgeville, Scotia, Point Arena and Trinidad.

Keeping with tradition, admission to most performances is free thanks to the generous support of local schools, the California Arts Council, Wildberries Marketplace, Stephany Joy of Re/Max Humboldt Realty, Pierson Building Center, Coast Central Credit Union and Ramone's Bakery and Café; as well as The James Irvine Foundation.

The audience is asked to contribute nonperishable food items, which the cast collects and donates to local food banks in collaboration with local nonprofit Food for People.

### DELL'ARTE'S 'THE SNOW QUEEN' HOLIDAY SHOW TOUR

❖ **Friday, Nov. 24 & Saturday, Nov. 25 at 7:30 p.m.** Carlo Theatre, Blue Lake<sup>1</sup>  
❖ **Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 7 p.m.** McKinleyville High School<sup>2</sup>  
❖ **Thursday, Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m.** Winema Theatre, Scotia<sup>2</sup>  
❖ **Friday, Dec. 1 at 5 p.m.** Orick School<sup>1</sup>

❖ **Saturday, Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m.** Eureka Theater<sup>2</sup>  
❖ **Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 6:30 p.m.** Mateel Community Center, Redway<sup>3</sup>  
❖ **Friday, Dec. 8 at 7 p.m.** Lorna Byrne Middle School, Cave Junction, Ore.<sup>1</sup>  
❖ **Saturday, Dec. 9 at 5 p.m.** Margaret Keating Elementary School, Klamath<sup>1</sup>

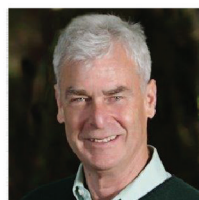
❖ **Monday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m.** Trinidad Elementary School<sup>2</sup>  
❖ **Tuesday, Dec. 12 at 7:30 p.m.** Van Duzer Theatre, Arcata<sup>2</sup>  
❖ **Thursday, Dec. 14 to Saturday, Dec. 16 at 7:30 p.m. & Saturday, Dec. 16 and Sunday, Dec. 17 at 2 p.m.** Carlo Theatre, Blue Lake<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Free tickets available at Dell'Arte box office or at the door

<sup>2</sup> Free tickets available at Pierson's Building Center, Wildberries Marketplace and Coast Central Credit Union in McKinleyville

<sup>3</sup> Free tickets available at the Mateel Community Center

<sup>4</sup> Tickets \$12/\$10 for students and seniors/\$8 for children 12 and under available at the Dell'Arte box office or online at [dellarte.com](http://dellarte.com).



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# The peaceable hamlet’s many holiday offerings

Experience a taste of Blue Lake this holiday season! Start at the Museum Holiday Craft Fair Saturday, Nov. 25, at the Mad River Grange, 110 Hatchery Rd. There will be food offered by the Grange and a variety of artists, plus the traditional Christmas decoration table, where you can pick up gently-used, and sometimes new, Christmas decorations to add to your collection this holiday season.

Then continue with your shopping experience at the Blue Lake Emporium across the street from the Grange, where the Blue Lake Artisans Collective will be continuing their weekend Holiday Market from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

And while I’m on the subject, the Blue Lake Artisans Collective will be hosting a very special event, “A Taste of Blue Lake,” Friday, Dec. 1 from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Enjoy a night featuring the many tastes that are offered here in the City of Blue Lake, with food from Blackberry Bramble, Fish Brothers, Sjaaks Organic Chocolates and Tomaso’s Specialty Foods, plus craft beer from Mad River Brewery and spir-its from Jewell Distillery. A limited number of tickets are being sold, at only \$20 each presale, \$25 at the door if there are any left over. Tickets can be purchased at the Logger Bar, Jewell Distillery or Mad River Brewery.

There are also so many other upcoming events to put on your calendar. First off, there is Wreath Making Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 2 and 3, at the Blue Lake Fire Hall. Participation fee is \$30; this is a fundraiser for the Blue Lake eighth grade class. Watch this space for more information, coming soon. Also throughout December, there will be three Paint Night/Day activities, starting Sunday, Dec. 3 at 1 p.m. at the Blue Lake Emporium during the Holiday Market. This will be a benefit for Blue Lake Parks and Recreation. A different Paint Night at the Mad River Grange Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 6 p.m. is a benefit for the Mad River Grange and Soroptimist International of McKinleyville. Lastly, there will be a large paint night activity at the Prash Hall Party Room Tuesday, Dec. 19 at 6 p.m., also to benefit the eighth grade class at Blue Lake School. All are led by yours truly, so you can call me at City Hall, (707) 668-5655, for details.

Keep your eyes peeled for events that I don’t have enough information yet to truly write about. I do know that the Blue Lake Chamber of Commerce will hold a Christmas tree lighting ceremony this year. The tree is being delivered sometime in the next week or so, and it will become a permanent fixture for holiday cheer for years to come.

Have a happy and safe Thanksgiving!



❖ BLUE LAKE NOTES  
April Sousa

# Season of celebrations by the seaside starts

The Annual Blessing of the Fleet will take place Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 23 at 10 a.m. at the Memorial Lighthouse at Edwards and Main streets. All are invited to join in honoring Trinidad’s 17 commercial fishing boat captains and their crews as they face the perils of the sea during the winter crab fishing season.

There will be blessings, music and presentation of good-luck talismans to the fishermen. The Trinidad Rancheria will provide hot coffee and pastries near the Eatery on Main Street.

## Beach and Dunes Walk

The Trinidad Coastal Land Trust will lead a Beach and Dunes Walk Friday, Nov. 24 from 10 a.m. to noon. Contact coordinator Carol Vander Meer at (707) 834-4113 or email [carol.vandermeer@gmail.com](mailto:carol.vandermeer@gmail.com) for details on meeting place.

## Trinidad Art Gallery is 5 years old

Celebrate Trinidad Art’s five-year anniversary Saturday, Nov. 25 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the cooperative art gallery

at the corner of Trinity and Parker Streets. Refreshments will be served, and Howdy Emerson and JD Jeffries will provide music. All are welcome.

## Susan Fox exhibit

Susan Fox, a fine wildlife artist, has her work on view at Westhaven Center for the Arts, 501 South Westhaven Dr., through December. The gallery is open Friday through Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. Call (707) 677-9493 for details and to hear about all of the center’s programs, fitness classes, art lessons and special events.

## Fine Arts Salon

Donna Haddock of Inner Center Fine Arts Institute ([icfineartsin.org](http://icfineartsin.org)) will present a Salon for Ladies Friday, Dec. 1 at 10 a.m. The intimate salons are an enlightening interlude of beauty and serenity in busy lives. The topic is “Fine Arts: Light, Life and Love.” Call Donna at (707) 596-5350 to reserve a place and to receive venue directions. A \$10 donation is suggested and light refreshments are provided.



## Lighthouse Month at library

Visit the Trinidad Library Tuesdays, Thursdays or Saturdays to discover the library’s collection of lighthouse books featured in the entryway. Library manager Kristen Dalziel has assembled an impressive exhibit of the coast’s mariner’s beacons.

## Lighthouse open Dec. 2

The Bureau of Land Management and Trinidad Museum docents invite all to take a walk up to the Trinidad Head Lighthouse Saturday, Dec. 2 between 10 a.m. and noon for a tour of the tower and a look around the freshly maintained grounds where the old lighthouse keeper’s residence used to rest. The old redwood keeper’s dwelling was torn down in 1961 but the breathtaking views remain for all to discover.

## Chamber’s Holiday Gala

Join Trinidad Chamber of Commerce members and guests at the annual Holiday Gala Saturday, Dec. 9 in the Town Hall. Details to come, but mark your December calendar now.

Email Patti at [baycity@sonic.net](mailto:baycity@sonic.net).

**THANKSGIVING MORNING MEANDER** Join Friends of the Arcata Marsh for its 18th annual Thanksgiving morning meander **Thursday, Nov. 23**. Jenny Hanson, Alex Stillman and Jane Wilson lead a 90-minute walk around the Marsh beginning at 10 a.m. Meet on the porch of the Interpretive Center on South G Street (building will be closed for the holiday). (707) 826-2359

## LITTLE RIVER STATE BEACH HIKE

Walk off that holiday feast with the Trinidad Coastal Land Trust **Friday, Nov. 24** from 10 a.m. to noon, on a post-Thanksgiving hike at Little River State Beach. This beautiful beach, just north of Clam Beach on the south bank of the Little River, is part of a 15-acre parcel owned by trust, which is raising funds to develop a Little River Trail that will cross the river, connecting Scenic Drive to the Hammond Trail. The State Beach is also the site of an innovative dune restoration project led by California State Parks. State Park environmental scientist Michelle Forys will be a special guest on the hike, sharing highlights of successes and challenges of the restoration project. Land Trust representatives will give walk participants a sneak preview of plans to add a new segment to the California Coastal Trail, connecting to Trinidad. Meet at the Little River parking area just off the Cran-nell Road exit off Highway 101 on the frontage road, and park in the first gravel parking lot on left. The Trinidad Coastal Land Trust is dedicated to protect and preserve Trinidad’s unique coastal environments. Its programs are free and open to anyone interested in learning more about Trinidad’s coast. Reserve your spot by calling (707) 677-2501 or emailing [carol@trinidadcoastallandtrust.org](mailto:carol@trinidadcoastallandtrust.org).



**MARSH TOUR** Friends of the Arcata Marsh sponsors a free tour of the Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary **Saturday, Nov. 25** at 2 p.m. Meet leader Leslie Anderson at the Interpretive Center on South G Street for a 90-minute walk focusing on the birds and ecology of the Marsh. Loaner binoculars available with photo ID. (707) 826-2359

**FOREST TRAIL WORKDAY** The City of Arcata’s Environmental Services Department and the Humboldt Trails Council’s Volunteer Trail Stewards invite you to participate in the final volunteer work day of 2017 in the Arcata Community Forest **Saturday, Nov. 25** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers meet at 9 a.m. at the Fickle Hill Road entrance to the Arcata Community Forest. Participants will rehabilitate unauthorized trails off of Trails 12, 13 and 4 within the forest. Work will involve scarifying and naturalizing the unauthorized trails. Please be sure to wear a long sleeve shirt, work pants and boots. Work will happen rain or shine, so bring rain gear if it looks like rain! Participants will be provided with tools, beverages and lunch. Some work gloves will be provided, but if you have your own, please bring them! New volunteers are always welcome. (707) 825-2163, [eservices@cityofarcata.org](mailto:eservices@cityofarcata.org)

**SLOW MARSH TOUR** Friends of the Arcata Marsh sponsors a free tour **Tuesday, Nov. 28** at 2 p.m. for those who love the Marsh and want to enjoy seeing it at a slower pace than regular Saturday tours. The tour lasts 90 minutes across even, level ground and is suitable to attendees of all ages who want to learn and like camaraderie. Meet leaders John DeMartini and Jane Wilson at the first parking lot on South I Street in from Samoa Boulevard. This tour is held the last Tuesday of each month, come rain, shine, or wind. (707) 826-2359

**SCI-FI PINT & FRY NIGHT** See *The Guyver* (1991) and other psychotronic weirdness, trailers, short films and strange giveaways **today, Nov. 22** at Arcata Theatre Lounge, 1036 G St. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the main feature starts at 7:30 p.m. After a Chronos Corp. researcher is murdered, the victim’s daughter and a rogue CIA agent (Mark Hamill) suspect foul play. Using a top-secret suit of armor called “the Guyver,” they must put an end to the evil CEO. Admission is free with \$5 minimum purchase of food or beverage. Parental guidance is suggested.

**LEARN ABOUT ‘THE ABUNDANCE OF LESS’** North-town Books, 957 H St. in Arcata, welcomes Andy Couturier, author of *The Abundance of Less: Lessons in Simple Living from Rural Japan* for a talk and book-signing **Friday, Nov. 24** at 7 p.m. In the book, Couturier captures the texture of sustainable lives well lived in 10 profiles of ordinary – yet exceptional – men and women who left behind mainstream existences in urban Japan to live surrounded by the luxuries of nature, art, friends, delicious food and an abundance of time. By inviting readers to enter into the essence of

these individuals’ days, Couturier shows us how we too can bring more meaning and richness to our own lives. [northtownbooks.com](http://northtownbooks.com)

**AT CENTRAL STATION** 707 plays Central Station, 1631 Central Ave. in McKinleyville, **Saturday, Nov. 25** starting at 9 p.m. The show is for ages 21 and older.

**RADIO CLASH** DJ Blancatron and DJ Anya spin punk, New Wave, indie and ska at The Alibi, 744 Ninth St. in Arcata, **Saturday, Nov. 25** at 11 p.m. There is a \$2 cover for this 21 and over show.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION									
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See crossword on page A4

## ❖ EMPLOYMENT

**Visiting Angels** is seeking Caregivers, CNAs & HHAs to assist seniors in Fortuna, McKinleyville, and Eureka. Part-time and Full-time, flexible hours. Please call 707-362-8045.

CALENDAR	VENUE	WEDNESDAY, NOV. 22	THURSDAY, NOV. 23	FRIDAY, NOV. 24	SATURDAY, NOV. 25	SUNDAY, NOV. 26	MONDAY, NOV. 27	TUESDAY, NOV. 28
	Arcata Theatre Lounge 1036 G St., Arcata	6 p.m. Sci-Fi Night		7:30 p.m. <i>Labyrinth</i>		5:30 p.m. <i>The Goonies</i>		9 p.m. • Humboldt Harvest Jam
	Blue Lake Casino 777 Casino Way, Blue Lake		9 p.m. • Karaoke with KJ Leonard	9 p.m. Curtis Marks	9 p.m. Uptown Kings	9 p.m. • Karaoke with KJ Leonard		
	Cher-Ae Heights Casino 27 Scenic Dr., Trinidad	8 p.m. Free pool		9 p.m. 707	9 p.m. Eyes Anonymous	8 p.m. • Karaoke with DJ Marv		
	Humboldt Brews 856 10th St., Arcata				9 p.m. Soul Party #5			8 p.m. • The Del McCoury Band
	The Jam 915 H St., Arcata	9 p.m. Whomp				9:30 p.m. Sundaze	9:30 p.m. 12BC Productions	8:30 p.m. Comedy Night
	The Logger Bar 501 Railroad Ave., Blue Lake		CLOSED	CLOSED		6 p.m. Football/potluck	5 p.m. onward Free pool	all day Free ping-pong
	Mad River Brewing Co. 101 Taylor Way, Blue Lake		CLOSED		6 p.m. Jim Lahman Band			6 p.m. Blue Lotus Jazz
	Redwood Curtain Brewery 550 South G St., Arcata		CLOSED		8 p.m. The Lost Dogs	2 p.m. • Happy Tree Paint & Sip		
	Six Rivers Brewery 1300 Central Ave., McKinleyville	3 p.m. Tap 'n' Tight Night	CLOSED		2 p.m. DJ J Dub	8 p.m. Trivia Night	8:30 p.m. • Karaoke with DJ Marv	

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# Luna | Still stands tall

✦ FROM B1

episode of a documentary series titled, in English, *Tree Stories – Around the World*. According to Moskowitz, who was granted a preview, the episode that features Luna, paired with that of a Japanese bonsai half her age, is titled “Survivors.” The filmmakers have agreed to allow Sanctuary Forest to hold one screening of the documentary film, which Moskowitz hopes to host as a fundraiser. [Full disclosure: as we were departing Luna, he invited me to help organize it, and I accepted; stay tuned for more details.]

## Luna still stands

Luna stands, as she has for a millennium, on a ridge, located west of the community of Stafford. Clearly visible from U.S. Highway 101 on a clear day, her top two bare branches, described by Hill as “the most magical spot” she had ever visited, distinguish her from among her companions. Moskowitz pointed her out among the other trees on the ridge: “Christmas tree, Christmas tree, Christmas tree, Luna.”

Formerly known as the Stafford Giant, the tree is some 200 feet tall. Aptly, in the agreement that saved Luna, she is the centerpiece of a 200-foot diameter buffer zone that protects the grove that surrounds her. The agreement is still in effect under new property owner Humboldt Redwood Company. The company’s president, Mike Jani (now retired), took “an active hands-on role with Luna Easement” according to Moskowitz, and became such a strong supporter of Sanctuary Forest programs that he volunteered in the organization’s Summer Hike Program.

Even the peaceable end of Hill’s controversial tree-sit did not put a stop to the vitriol directed at the activists and the tree itself. Seventeen years ago this month, Luna was attacked by a still-unknown vandal, who used a chainsaw with a 3-foot bar to saw through about half of her circumference. When telling Luna’s story, Moskowitz said, he always includes a direct address to the person who attacked Luna:

“Somewhere, perhaps right here in this room, is Luna’s chainsaw attacker, still free after 17 years. I hope that this person, wherever he or she may be, hears this story. Luna is not forgotten – Luna is not weakened – Luna stands tall, and every year grows beautiful new boughs. I want this person to know that Luna’s message continues to reach around the world, perhaps even more because of that malicious attack.”

## Essence and bear spit

Earlier this month, at Luna’s base, Moskowitz invited the hikers to share their own stories of Luna. Some had climbed Luna, some had been involved in the response to the devastating attack. On our drive to see the tree, Moskowitz shared with me a handwritten letter Hill had sent him, along with a bottle of “Essence of Luna,” a distillate of Luna’s bark, needles and sap, and a little brandy, that Hill made during her two years in the tree. Hill directed Moskowitz to dilute the tincture with some spring water and to use the liquid in a brief ritual every time he visits the tree. The day of our visit, he invited one of the hikers to do the honors to the seven directions (north, south, east, west, sky, earth and center). Af-



‘CHRISTMAS TREE, CHRISTMAS TREE, CHRISTMAS TREE, LUNA’ The tree’s distinctive forked pinnacle makes her easy to find when driving down U.S. Highway 101. Moskowitz gives talks about Luna to local schoolchildren, who often thank him with artwork depicting the tree, below.

PHOTO BY STUART MOSKOWITZ

terward, he passed around the cobalt blue bottle and invited any who were interested to help themselves to a drop or two; some placed it on their tongues, some anointed themselves.

Engaging in such spiritual practices may seem out of character for Moskowitz. He is, after all, a lecturer in the Department of Mathematics at Humboldt State, and some would see his academic training in science

as being at odds with his participation in such rituals. But it is clear that in this, as in other aspects of Luna’s care, Moskowitz and others have taken their cue from Hill, whose opinions on Luna’s well-being are sought out and clearly deeply respected.

In his recent lecture, Moskowitz detailed the aftermath of the attack on Luna. Fearful that winter winds could topple the severely-injured tree, Pacific Lumber and Sanctuary Forest leapt into action. The great iron “butterfly bandage” braces that support Luna were manufactured, with great speed and at considerable expense, in Pacific Lumber’s machine shop. The shop itself, Moskowitz said, was decorated with an Earth First! banner loggers had ripped from the forest during the tree-sit.

Consultants suggested a variety of materials to patch Luna’s deep wound, including a plastic polymer. At Hill’s request, however, a decision was made to use natural materials, and Hill asked Moskowitz to contact Cherokee Earth Medicine Healer Byron Utah Jordan. As Moskowitz tells it, Jordan suggested clay as an all-around natural bandage, the second-best thing to use.

“What’s the best?” asked Moskowitz. “Bear spit,” he reports Jordan responding, “but it’s hard to get.”

Undeterred, Moskowitz began contacting bear experts and zoos, finally connecting with the Sequoia Park Zoo, whose locally beloved American black bear, Rosemary, obligingly chewed up and slobbered on some celery.

Moskowitz, seated at the base of Luna, pulled a bear-saliva-encrusted piece of plastic from a pouch and passed it around. “It’s never been washed,” he said, “but at this point, the bear spit on it is more ‘homeopathic.’”

On Feb. 9, 2001, a group including Moskowitz and Hill closed the wound “with clay, love and spit.” At Jordan’s direction, they used local clay, which Moskowitz dug out from his backyard. They mixed in the celery and bear spit, and some of their own saliva, and packed Luna’s wound.

Moskowitz left a bag of clay in the forest

by Luna, where it stays moist. He still packs the wound to this day, inviting visitors to participate in this rite as well.

Maybe it was the bear spit, maybe it was the bracing, but more likely a combination of these and many other factors, for despite all dire predictions, Luna thrives. Writes Moskowitz: “Shortly after the chainsaw attack, in December 2000, Professor Steve Sillett, HSU canopy biologist, predicted Luna could lose perhaps 80 percent of her foliage because the flow of water to the leaves had been severed.” In his presentation, Moskowitz pointed out that an obscure piece of conifer research dating from 1959 shows that “Coast Redwoods can lift water in a zigzag pattern, which helps us understand how Luna continues to send water and nutrients throughout her canopy ... If this research had been discovered earlier, their prognosis for Luna may have been more optimistic.”

Today, Luna’s wound remains glaring, a heartbreaking reminder of vindictiveness. But the wound also shows signs of healing. Bulges around the scar indicate an accumulation of nutrients. The tree is making new layers of bark, some ropy and spongy. The foliage at the very tip of the tree has died back – something Moskowitz said is not unusual in a lightning-struck Coastal Redwood of her age – revealing her distinctive upper branches. But the remainder of her crown is lush, green and vibrant.

Luna lives.

## Wisdom without words

As we leave Luna, Moskowitz leads us along a different path, pointing out various vantage points from which to better see Luna’s crown. As we walk, Moskowitz checks on the anchor points of the cables that help stabilize the tree. There are four cables, though, as he tells it, Hill had been adamant that Luna wanted only three, a rare instance in which Hill’s wishes were not followed. One of the cables is attached to the ground with an anchor that was drilled

27 feet into the ground. Other cables were secured not by wrapping neighboring trees, but by drilling through them, a practice, said Moskowitz, which is less harmful.

Hill’s observation that “Luna needs a family around her to keep her standing” proved literally true. The cables protect Luna just as Moskowitz protects Luna, a successor to the Earth First! activists and to Julia Butterfly Hill, whose presence is felt in every story and still resonates at the tree itself. And like Luna is protected and supported by her neighboring trees, she, in turn, protects the grove where she has stood for a thousand years.

In closing his presentation, Moskowitz turned to the words of Anna Walraven, a Dutch woman who visited Luna in 2014 in “a search for answers to the big questions of our time,” according to the website *futurefuel.nl*. While initially wondering why she had subjected herself to the torturous airplane trip to Humboldt County, upon meeting Luna, she wrote, “the longer I remain here, and the more I quiet my mind, the more I feel the energy of this special place. There are no words to describe this energy, I can’t describe it, but it makes me want to endlessly sit leaning against the tree and listen, just listen. To what? My mind squeals this is all crazy, but my heart truly feels the energy and connects with the thousand-year-old wisdom that is rooted in this tree. And while I sit there I realize that this may be the most important insight of my quest for answers: that there exists a deep wisdom, a wisdom without words.”

Layers of such stories surround Luna, growing out from her like bark from cambium. As Moskowitz pointed out, stories are what now keep Luna safe, cocooning her in a world-wide web of words – and of love.

Read Moskowitz’ Luna updates and learn more about Sanctuary Forest’s ongoing work to save this and other trees, at *sanctuaryforest.org*.

## LEGAL NOTICES

<b>FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 17-00550</b> The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: <b>REPROF FINANCIAL</b> 555 H STREET, SUITE G EUREKA, CA 95501 <b>REPRO INVESTMENTS, INC.</b> C0894115 555 H STREET, SUITE G EUREKA, CA 95501 This business is conducted by: A Corporation <b>SIGLENN G. GOLDAN, PRESIDENT</b> This statement was filed with the Humboldt County Clerk on OCT. 13, 2017 KELLY E. SANDERS SC DEPUTY CLERK 11/1, 11/8, 11/15, 11/22	<b>JONATHAN NMN SANDOVAL</b> 1635 29TH STREET ARCATA, CA 9552 This business is conducted by: An Individual <b>S/JONATHAN SANDOVAL, OWNER</b> This statement was filed with the Humboldt County Clerk on OCT. 30, 2017 KELLY E. SANDERS KL DEPUTY CLERK 11/8, 11/15, 11/22, 11/29	<b>Corporation</b> <b>S/DON BRADNER, PRESIDENT</b> This statement was filed with the Humboldt County Clerk on NOV. 13, 2017 KELLY E. SANDERS SC DEPUTY CLERK 11/22, 11/29, 12/6, 12/13 <b>AMENDED ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME</b> <b>NICOLE ALEXIA HESS</b> <b>SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA</b> <b>COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT</b> <b>CASE NO. CV170900</b> TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioner has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present name: NICOLE ALEXIA HESS to Proposed name LEXA MORRIGAN VAN HEL BLU. 2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court, located at 825 5th Street, Eureka, California, at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the application should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. Date: December 1, 2017 Time: 1:45 p.m. Dept.: 4 3. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Mad River Union. Date: OCT. 26 2017 TIMOTHY P. CISSNA Judge of the Superior Court 11/8, 11/15, 11/22, 11/29
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**Communication Specialist (part-time)**  
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**Filing Deadline: 4pm, December 1st, 2017.**  
Performs a variety of duties related to the coordination, development, and dissemination of information pertaining to City activities, projects and functions with the purpose of informing, engaging and connecting with the community. EOE. Application packet available at: [www.cityofarcata.org](http://www.cityofarcata.org) or City Manager's Office, 736 F Street, Arcata; (707) 822-5953.

11/29

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**CITY OF ARCATA**  
**NOTICE OF ARCATA CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING FOR A LAND USE CODE AMENDMENT**  
**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Arcata City Council will conduct a Public Hearing on Wednesday, December 6, 2017, beginning at 6:00 p.m. (or as soon thereafter as can be heard) in the City Council Chambers, Arcata City Hall, 736 F St., to consider Land Use Code text amendments to allow non-medical cannabis processing, manufacturing, and retail sales in the City.  
**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The City's Zoning Ordinance, the Land Use Code (Code), will be amended to add non-medical cannabis uses and activities. The proposed amendments will affect sections: Table 1-1 Zoning Districts; Table 2-10 Allowable Land Uses; 9.28.130 Medical Marijuana Innovation Zone Combining Zone (MMIZ); 9.42.105 Medical Marijuana: Cultivation and Dispensing; and 9.100.020 Definitions. The word "cannabis" will replace the word "marijuana" in applicable Code sections for both non-medical and medical cannabis. The amendment will rename the Medical Marijuana Innovation Zone; the renamed Cannabis Innovation Zone will allow both medical and non-medical cannabis manufacturing uses, but will not change the boundaries of the zone. In addition, medical cannabis dispensaries in good standing would be allowed to operate a non-medical cannabis retail use under the amendment.  
**PROJECT TYPE:** Land Use Code Text Amendment  
**LOCATION / ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBERS (APN) / PROPERTY OWNER:** Various locations and property owners throughout the City; primarily the Medical Marijuana Innovation Zone (MMIZ). Existing medical cannabis dispensaries: 601 I St., APN 021-163-006; and 980 6th St., APN 021-163-006.  
**APPLICANT:** City of Arcata  
**FILE NUMBER:** 167-058-LUCA  
**ZONING:** Industrial Limited, and Industrial General with a Medical Marijuana Innovation Zone Combining Zone (IL and IG:MMIZ); Commercial Central (CC)  
**GENERAL PLAN:** Industrial-Limited (I-L), Industrial-General (I-G), and Commercial Central (C-C)  
**COASTAL STATUS:** Existing medical cannabis dispensaries are located in the Coastal Zone. 888  
**ENVIRONMENTAL:** A California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Negative Declaration was previously adopted by the City of Arcata City Council for the City's medical marijuana regulatory program and the :MMIZ Combining Zone in accordance with the CEQA - State Clearinghouse #2016012039. The proposed Code amendments are exempt from environmental review according to California Code of Regulations § 15061(b)3 as there is no possibility the activity will have a significant effect on the environment.  
**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that anyone desiring to present testimony regarding said project may do so prior to or at the public hearing noticed herein.  
**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the information regarding the proposed project and environmental review may be reviewed at the Community Development Department at Arcata City Hall, 736 "F" Street, Arcata, on weekdays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Phone 707-822-5955. Contact person: Joe Mateer, Senior Planner.  
**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that, pursuant to state law, "If you challenge City action on a proposed project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the hearing body at, or prior to, the public hearing(s)."  
Published November 22, 2017, 1/8 page ad MRU  
11/22





**W**hew! It's been a week in the dog world! The shelter's dog population has stayed at a level way above capacity for a while now. Fortunately, a few things have happened or are happening to try and bring the numbers down. Our two longest residents, Jasper and Maverick, with two of their cohorts, are trying their luck at a new venue at a

## Happy holidogs to host open house

shelter in Brookings. These are such great dogs and we are hoping that they quickly find adopters there.

We look forward to an ongoing relationship with this shelter. A small caravan of volunteers drove the dogs there and checked the place out, giving it two thumbs up.

Several dogs were adopted from here and several more redeemed by their owners; every dog out helps save the lives of those still in the shelter. Redwood Pals Rescue sent an old English Bulldog with health problems to the best home she could have imagined! Another old dog went out to foster and is enjoying lying by the fire at his new digs. These are the moments that make it all worthwhile.

As added incentive to adopt from the shelter this month, the administrators have reduced the canine adoption fees, which were pretty low to begin with. All adopted dogs come with a microchip, current vaccinations and are spayed or neutered. This is an amazing deal! There are still plenty to choose from.

Volunteer Cassie Moore has taken some more fabulous photos of the adoptable



❖ DOGTOWN  
Mara Segal

dogs. In addition to the ones seen here, you can always see more on the County Animal Shelter Facebook page.

Ember, a 2-year-old female pit bull terrier mix with a great smile and a personality to match, and Hank, a large 6-year-old mixed breed Rottweiler/shepherd/mutt with a very relaxed attitude, are currently available to adopt.

They are dressed in holiday duds to remind everyone that the shelter's Holiday Open House is coming up Saturday, Dec. 9. This event is always a lot of fun and raises money for the shelter's Emergency Medical Fund. The fund is used for cats and dogs that need veterinary care beyond the stipend that is allotted by the county. This fund, managed by Friends for Life Animal Rescue, helps to pay for orthopedic injuries, skin and eye ailments, heartworm treatment and so much more.

They always have a fabulous selection of items in their silent and Dutch auctions (for which donations are still being accepted at the shelter). Busy on Dec. 9? Come in any time before then and bid or buy raffle tickets. On the day of the event, there will be shelter tours and refreshments as well.



PHOTOS BY CASSIE MOORE

Mark your calendars now!

The shelter is open Monday through Friday (closed Thanksgiving and the day after) and is located at 980 Lycoming Ave. in McKinleyville. Get more info at (707) 840-9132. Redwood Pals Rescue can be reached at [redwoodpalsrescue@gmail.com](mailto:redwoodpalsrescue@gmail.com) or by calling (707) 839-9692.

**LOCAL RED CROSS VOLUNTEER TRAINING** Red Cross volunteers are trained to meet the needs of people affected by disasters, providing food, shelter, and comfort for families affected by disasters big and small from home fires, floods, wildfires and earthquakes. You can make a difference in our community by becoming a volunteer with the American Red Cross to bring help and hope to people in need. Volunteers constitute about 90 percent of the total Red Cross workforce to carry out our humanitarian work. We'll find the position that appeals to you and allows you to use your skills and talents. Red Cross Volunteer Orientations will be held **Thursday, Nov. 30** from 6 to 8 p.m. and **Saturday, Dec. 2** from 10 a.m. to noon at the Red Cross Office, 3101 Concorde Dr., Ste H, in McKinleyville. Make a difference in your community by attending one of the upcoming volunteer orientations or begin the volunteer application at [redcross.org/volunteer](http://redcross.org/volunteer).

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CLASS OF

1950

**TOGETHER AGAIN** The Arcata Union High School Class of 1950 held its 67th reunion in Blue Lake Aug. 8. The event was hosted by Betty Swanson. Seated are Peggy Hunt, Ed Giuntini, Marilyn Wood Vierra, Sylvia Reis, Annette Jicha, Jim Sullivan and Oma Monson. Standing are Dick Messer, host Betty Swanson, Vernon Lewis and Joe Parker.

PHOTO COURTESY JOE PARKER

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